

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 14 (Canceled).

15 (Original). A prosthesis system comprising cooperating first and second attachment elements, a prosthesis that carries one of the attachment elements, and a fastener body sized and configured for deployment in tissue and including a region that carries the other one of the attachment elements to couple the prosthesis to the fastener body.

16 (Original). A system according to claim 15 wherein the cooperating attachment elements comprise a mechanical coupling assembly.

17 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 16 wherein the mechanical coupling assembly includes a hook.

18 (Original). A system according to claim 16 wherein the mechanical coupling assembly includes a barb.

19 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 15 wherein the cooperating attachment elements includes a magnetic coupling assembly.

20 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 15 wherein the cooperating attachment elements includes a chemical coupling assembly.

21 (Original). A system according to claim 15 wherein the fastener body comprises a distal end that includes a region for penetrating tissue and proximal end for releasably coupling the fastener body to a force applier, and wherein the proximal end carries the other one of the attachment elements.

22 (Original). A system according to claim 21 wherein the proximal end includes a stop structure to prevent over-penetration of the fastener body into tissue so that the other one of the attachment elements is exposed for coupling to the attachment element carried by the prosthesis.

23 (Original). A system according to claim 21 wherein the region for penetrating tissue comprises a helical coil.

24 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 15

wherein the fastener body comprises a stent ring having an outer surface that includes a region for penetrating tissue.

25 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 24

wherein the stent ring is expandable between a radially constrained condition and a radially expanded condition.

26 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 24

wherein the fastener body includes an interior surface that includes the one attachment element.

27 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 24

wherein the region for penetrating tissue includes a tissue penetrating element.

28 (Original). A system according to claim 15

wherein the fastener body includes a radio-opaque marker material.

29 to 32 (Canceled).